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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 26 | Min 21 | Humidity 85% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 82,134 | Nifty 25,151 | Gold 73,250 | Silver 83,000 | Dollar 83.87 | Euro 93.18 | GBP 106.65

Wet wet

CITY PAGE 2

With 727 mm of rainfall from January 1 to August 27, Uttarahalli has turned out to be wettest place in Bengaluru this year

Press pause

CITY PAGE 4

As development work taken up at ₹2.50 crore comes to halt, prominent park in CBD area looks like ghost of its former self

Official deadline to finish Yelahanka flyover is March 2025, but BBMP claims it wants to wrap it up sooner. Well, we won't complain, as the flyover is long-awaited

WORK IS GOING ON... ... AND ON AND ON

PICS: KAUSHIK JN

Various elements of elevated flyover, including girder now being placed

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Delayed completion of Yelahanka flyover has worsened the traffic movement at and around Yelahanka Junction.

According to the officials from Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) Road Infrastructure Department, the project will be completed by March 2025.

"Various elements of the elevated flyover, including the girder are being placed and the pace of work has picked up. Although the official deadline to finish the project is March 2025, we would like to wrap up earlier. All the pillars are up and their strength testing process is completed. This was a crucial step and since it is out of the way, the project will be ready in the stipulated

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

"While we expected some delay in the project, it has gone beyond that. Although BBMP claims that the pace of the project has picked up, we feel it is still slow. On some days, it is at a standstill

— V Selvarajan, resident of the area

Lock, stock and barrel

Scams luring investors into fake online trading platforms surge; 770 cases so far this year

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Doubling money is fun until you walk into a net where a silent predator is on the prowl, exploiting vulnerabilities and the digital age's conveniences. Over the past seven months, the city has witnessed an alarming surge in stock and share trading scams, with over 770 cases reported till now.

As online trading platforms proliferate, so too have the methods of those who seek to exploit them. The modern scammer no longer relies on traditional methods; instead, they use sophisticated techniques that leverage artificial intelligence, automated systems, and psychological manipulation to reel in their victims. Dr. Harsha Thennarasu, Chief Cyber Security Advisor (IT & OT), said, "Greed is the first bait that drives people to fall into these traps. The scammers don't need a large crowd; even if just four or five people out of 1,000 fall into their web, it's a significant gain for them."

Victims are often lured into WhatsApp groups or random number-generated groups where they are presented with seemingly legitimate

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

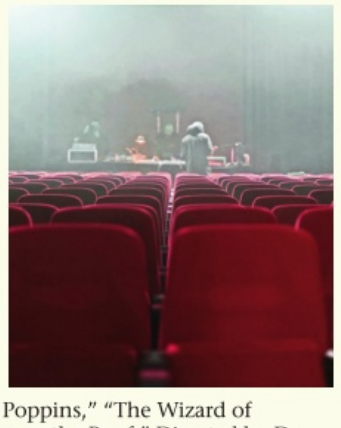
01 Ethical battle

Watch 'Bali: The Sacrifice,' a story of a king, caught between his Jain queen, who refuses to harm life, and his mother, who believes in sacrificial rites, finds himself struggling to reconcile his love for the women in his life, his position as a ruler, and perhaps the hardest of all, his faith. This production of Girish Karnad's play takes you through one night of pathos, anger, and laughter, unravelling barriers of caste and religious beliefs. **Where: Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield When: August 30 to September 1**

02 Devotional performance

Watch a unique and thematic exploration of the nine ways to connect with the divine through the 'Navavidha Bhakthi' presentation. It delves into the nine forms of devotion described in ancient scriptures, offering a deeply reflective and artistic portrayal of each path to divine connection. Conceived and directed by Acharya Dr Raksha Karthik, the presentation will feature performances by artist Smriti Sridhar and Acharya Raksha Karthik herself. **Where: The Medai, 5th Block, Koramangala; When: September 1, 6 pm**

03 Musical extravaganza



The students of The Green School Bangalore (TGSB), India's only zero carbon school, will be performing "Three Tales with a Twist," their annual musical. This event features student performances blending "Mary Poppins," "The Wizard of Oz," and "Fiddler on the Roof." Directed by Dr Ashley William Joseph, the show emphasises sustainability with eco-friendly set designs. They will also launch India's first School of Cinema, enhancing student creativity. **Where: The Green School, Whitefield; When: September 1, 5.30 pm**

Uttarahalli emerges as B'luru's wettest region

Monsoon peaks again in state after 26 days; heavy rainfall in city leads to waterlogging on several roads, disrupting traffic flow, Metro services

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Rainy scenes in Bengaluru on Thursday; you can see more images by scanning the QR code

Bengaluru's wettest place of 2024 has been identified as Uttarahalli, which has experienced the highest rainfall in the city. According to the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC), Uttarahalli recorded 727 mm of rainfall from January 1 to August 27. It is followed by Tavarakere with 629 mm, Yelahanka with 625 mm, and Kengeri with 691 mm. Other notable areas include Yeshwantpur with 626 mm, Varthur with 433 mm, KR Puram with 411 mm, and Sarjapura with 457 mm.

Back at peak

According to an update from Namma Karnataka Weather on Platform X, the monsoon is back at its peak phase. "The monsoon had exited the peak phase on August 2, but it returned after approximately 26 days. As anticipated, a low-pressure area has formed across the central Bay of Bengal at around 14-15N and is expected to move west-northwestward towards the north Andhra Pradesh (AP) and south Odisha coastlines." The forecast indicates widespread moderate to heavy showers in Karavali and Malnad, with a few places potentially experiencing very heavy rain. Scattered light rains are expected in South Interior Karnataka (SIK), North Karnataka (NK), and North Interior Karnataka (NIK), the update said, adding that Bengaluru might experience a few cool, cloudy days ahead as the monsoon transitions to its peak mode.

Meanwhile, Dr N Puviarasan, a scientist from the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), reported that under the influence of a cyclonic circulation over the east-central Bay of Bengal and its surroundings, a low-pressure area developed over the central and adjoining north Bay of Bengal at 8:30 IST on Thursday.

Rain forecast

Additionally, the offshore trough at mean sea level currently extends from south Gujarat to north Kerala, and the monsoon trough at mean sea level passes through the centre of the deep depression over Saurashtra and Kutch, Udaipur Dabok, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Ambikapur, Puri, and then southeastwards to the low-pressure area over the central and adjoining north Bay of Bengal, he said. "Due to this, scattered heavy to very heavy rainfall with isolated extremely heavy rain is expected in Udupi district. Heavy to very heavy rain is likely in Uttara Kannada and Dakshina Kannada districts. Isolated heavy to very heavy rain with wind speeds reaching 40-50 km/h is forecast for Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga, and Hassan districts, as well as for Belagavi, Raichur, Kalaburgi, Yadgir, and Kodagu districts. Light to moderate rain with similar wind speeds is expected across the remaining districts of Interior Karnataka. The weather is expected to remain generally cloudy in Bengaluru City, with light to moderate rain likely. Maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 27°C and 20°C, respectively," he said.

Waterlogging in city

On Thursday afternoon, heavy rainfall led to widespread flooding across Bengaluru. Several roads, including the Outer Ring Road (ORR) between Central Silk Board and Karthik Nagar, as well as Hebbal Flyover and other areas, experienced significant waterlogging, creating considerable difficulties for vehicle users navigating through the city.

Additionally, Metro services on the Purple Line were temporarily disrupted. At 4:51 pm, Metro train Set 23 was halted at the Cubbon Park up ramp due to a fallen tree branch obstructing the tracks. Services were resumed by 5:05 pm.

Global Physique Expo to be held from Nov 22

The much-awaited two-day Global Physique Expo is scheduled to be held in the city from November 22 at Palace Grounds in the city. The event is expected to bring elite bodybuilders from 20 states and 10 countries.

Talking to Bangalore Mirror, Siddu Yadav, Karnataka State President of the United Intercontinental Bodybuilding Fitness Federation (UIBFF), said that around 500 bodybuilders are expected to participate in the event. "It is for the first time an event of this magnitude is being organised in Karnataka. The winner will receive a cash prize of Rs 15 lakh, a trophy, and a certificate," he said. Bodybuilders from all corners of the globe are invited to participate. "The event will showcase both male and female bodybuilders in various categories, including junior and senior bodybuilding, physique, fitness, and bikini. Notably, there will be no preliminary rounds or eliminations, ensuring that every competitor has the opportunity to shine," Yadav said.

Gandasi Sadanandaswamy, organising committee member, appealed to all bodybuilders (men and women) in Karnataka to participate in the event. "I want one of the bodybuilders from Karnataka to bag the title in the competition," Sadanandaswamy added.

— Y Maheswara Reddy

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Park renovation work comes to abrupt halt

Development project taken up at Rs 2.50 crore has all but stopped, turning Dr Ferdinand Kittel Park in CBD area into abandoned space used by miscreants

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KAUSHIK JN

Debris and unfinished work greet visitors at Dr Ferdinand Kittel Park in MG Road

Due to halted developmental work, Dr Ferdinand Kittel Park now resembles an abandoned space and attracts miscreants at night. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) began the park's development last year with an estimated budget of Rs 2.50 crore, but much of the work remains incomplete. Bangalore Mirror published a story titled "Oops!" on July 5, 2023, highlighting how the BBMP demolished the footpath next to the park under the pretext of beautification. This forced pedestrians to walk on the busy MG Road, near the park in the Central Business District (CBD) area.

The presence of heaps of garbage, empty plastic bottles, and liquor bottles suggests that the BBMP Horticulture Department and Solid Waste Management Department may not be prioritising the upkeep of this park. Pedestrians and visitors to the nearby Mayo Hall Court are urging the BBMP authorities and the elected representative to take action and complete the pending work at the park. "It's both surprising and disheartening to see empty liquor bottles, heaps of garbage, and vacant land without saplings in this park. I urge the authorities to keep the park clean," said Nanjunda Swamy, a visitor to Mayo Hall Court.

Criticising the BBMP authorities for not completing the developmental works, pedestrian Prasad M highlighted Dr Ferdinand Kittel's significant contribution to Kannada, particularly through his creation of a Kannada-English dictionary. "The condition of the park is an embarrassment for a great personality like Dr Ferdinand Kittel. I urge the authorities concerned to fix this problem as early as possible and make the park one of the best parks in the CBD area," said Prasad.

Girish K, a visitor to Mayo Hall Court, appealed to the authorities to complete the pending works and open the park to the public, noting that it would be an ideal spot for those who visit Mayo Hall Court. "People who have to wait at the Mayo Hall during the lunch break have no proper place to relax for a while. Dr Ferdinand Kittel Park would be an ideal place to wait or relax during the lunch break," said Girish. Meanwhile, Shanthinagar MLA NA Harris said the developmental works are in progress. "I will direct the authorities to expedite the completion of pending works and take measures to open it for the public," said Harris. BBMP Horticulture Superintendent (East) Vijaykumar said he would arrange to clean the park. "I will send people to clear garbage from the park," he said.

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SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Old Survey No 37/1 and New Survey no.37/3 measuring total an extent of 0.1.08 guntas, Survey no 37/4 measuring an extent of 0.10.04 guntas, Survey no.70 measuring an extent of 0.07 guntas, Situated at Alapanahalli Village, Kasaba hobli, Hoskote taluk, Bangalore rural District Survey no.71/1 measuring an extent of 0.07.08 guntas Situated at Kallahalli Village, Kasaba hobli, Hoskote taluk, Bangalore rural District Totally an extent of 2503.97 Sq mtrs.

EAST BY:	Remaining land in Same Survey No,s
WEST BY:	Road on NH 648 RHS from Hoskote to Vabasandra
NORTH BY:	Remaining land in Same Survey No,s
SOUTH BY:	Private Land

CHANDAN B, ADVOCATE
Nelamangala Date: 15/08/2024

Hosur metro extension faces final hurdles

The feasibility study for the 23 km extension of South India's first inter-state metro project, from Bommasandra to Hosur, Tamil Nadu, is in its final phase despite opposition. Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) officials have sought cooperation from Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) for the project's implementation.

Sources said that since December, following approval from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Chennai Metro has been preparing the feasibility report for this extension. The study, conducted by Balaji Rail Road Systems, is nearly complete. CMRL has sought the assistance of BMRCL to finalise the report. However, BMRCL has shown limited interest in the matter. Initially, a 20.5 km metro route was planned. However, to accommodate a terminal station on the outskirts of Hosur, Tamil Nadu, an additional 2.5 km has been added, extending the project to a total of 23 km. Of this, 12 km will be in Karnataka, and the remaining 11

km will be in Tamil Nadu. The plan involves extending the existing RV Road - Bommasandra Yellow Line to Hosur. Currently, the Tamil Nadu government has covered the entire cost of the feasibility report. However, it is anticipated that BMRCL may propose funding once the project moves to the implementation stage. In July, BMRCL issued a tender to Hyderabad-based RV Associates to prepare a feasibility report for extending our metro line to Attibele. This report is expected to be completed within the next six months.

The feasibility study evaluates key factors such as train types, estimated ridership, total construction costs, and station alignments. Hosur, an industrial hub with major companies like Titan, Ashok Leyland, and TVS Motors, as well as 2,000 MSMEs, experiences significant daily traffic. Residents currently depend on overcrowded buses for their commute.

On the other hand, experts believe that the connection between the two states should be made through a network of suburban rails, as they are primarily used for inter-city linkages, unlike metro rail, which caters to intra-city movement. The Karnataka Rail Infrastructure Development Company (K-RIDE), which is executing the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP), has recently proposed connecting neighbouring cities and towns to Bengaluru, including a Heelalige-Hosur corridor measuring 23 km.

Intense opposition

State urban transport experts and pro-Kannada organisations have strongly opposed the extension of our metro to Hosur. They argue that this expansion offers no significant benefit to Bengaluru and could instead cause issues for local industries and entrepreneurs. — BMB

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Problems in your area?
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Road woes

Millers Road

The road in front of Prestige Super Market on Millers Road, near Qadria Mosque, has been in poor condition for nearly a month, yet no action has been taken by authorities.

Park's plight

Chacha Nehru Park

The condition of Chacha Nehru Park in Jayamahal, Ward No 63, is deplorable.

Footpath blocked

Vidyaranayapura

Footpath encroachment on Vidyaranyapura Main Road remains unaddressed despite repeated appeals to officials.

HC asks woman to appear before it, calls out '10-yr saga of deceit'

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The Karnataka High Court has ordered a woman complainant to appear before the court on Saturday and present her case regarding allegations of cruelty against her husband and his family members. The order was passed by a single judge bench of Justice M Nagaprasanna while hearing a petition filed by the husband and in-laws seeking the quashing of offences registered against them under various sections of the Indian Penal Code.

The court was informed that the woman had registered nine complaints against different individuals, alleging sexual harassment, criminal intimidation, and offences under Section 498A, 323, 504, and 506 of IPC. of IPC. It was revealed that the present petitioner was the complainant's tenth husband and that complaints had been filed against her previous nine husbands as well. The court noted in its order, "The saga of deceit from the hands of the second respondent is now a decade old." The court then proceeded to list the various crimes the complainant had registered over the years.

The court observed, "Prima facie it becomes necessary to observe that it is such frivolous cases and the abuse of process of law by such complainants has clogged the criminal justice system and has contributed to docket explosion." Noting that the complainant had remained absent throughout the proceedings, the court directed her to appear and make submissions on Saturday.

DKS case: CBI must approach Apex Court

The High Court has ruled that the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) must approach the Supreme Court if it wishes to challenge the withdrawal of consent for conducting an investigation. According to HC, the dispute primarily involves the state government and the CBI, which operates under the central government. Therefore, the SC is the appropriate forum to resolve the dispute, as per Article 131 of the Constitution of India.

A division bench consisting of Justice K Somashekar and Justice Umesh M Adiga passed the order on Thursday while dismissing the petition filed by the CBI as not maintainable before the HC. However, the bench left all issues regarding the merits of the case open for adjudication by the apex court. The CBI had challenged not only the legality of the withdrawal of sanction but also the state government's order dated December 22, 2023, which transferred the FIR registered by the CBI against Shivakumar to the Karnataka Lokayukta police for investigation. –BMB

HC adjourns hearing on CM's petition

The HC on Thursday adjourned to Saturday the hearing on Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's petition challenging the legality of Governor Thaawarchand's sanction for his prosecution in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) case.

The court also extended its August 19 interim order directing the special court for people's representatives that was slated to hear complaints against him in the case, to defer its proceedings till the next date of hearing.

Appearing for the CM, lawyer Abhishek Manu Singhvi made submissions when the hearing resumed. "Heard the learned senior counsel Singhvi, who has completed his submission for the present and would reserve his right of rejoinder submissions. Once the submissions are concluded by the respondents, the learned solicitor general (of India Tushar Mehta, who appeared for the Governor) submits that the matter would be taken up on August 31, he would complete his submissions on the said date. List the matter on Saturday at 10:30 am," said Justice M Nagaprasanna. "Interim order granted on August 19 shall continue till the next date of hearing," he said. –PTI

Darshan: From cameo to custody

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Actor Darshan was transferred from Parappana Agrahara Central Prison in Bengaluru to Bellary jail on Thursday under tight security, following a court order by the 24th Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, which came after a viral photograph/video reportedly from jail premises.

The court also approved the transfer of other co-accused in the case to various prisons across the state, with several being relocated the same day. Darshan was reportedly escorted to Ballari jail via Andhra Pradesh to ensure security and avoid large gatherings of fans.

The Bengaluru court has extended Darshan's judicial custody, along with Pavithra Gowda and 15 others, until September 9.

Notably, scenes from the 2017 Kannada movie 'Chowka', in which Darshan had a cameo role, were filmed in Bellary jail.

Meanwhile, Home Minister G Parameshwara expressed hope that there would be no issues at the Bellary prison regarding Darshan. When questioned about whether the Bellary jail authorities had been instructed to be vigilant, he clarified that respective prison authorities are responsible for such actions, not the government.

BM Food & Night Life

Advertorial Promotional Feature

5 Indian spices that everyone is talking about

These essential Indian spices are captivating taste buds worldwide

Turmeric

The fact that 'turmeric latte' or golden milk, made from cold-pressed turmeric, almonds, and milk, is a rage in the US, the UK, Australia, and South Africa proves how enamoured the world is of our haldi. The spice gives dishes a distinctive yellow tinge and a musky taste. Its popularity skyrocketed after its therapeutic properties were discovered. It's proven effectiveness against cancer, common cold, arthritis, and Alzheimer's makes it a cult choice.

Cumin

This is an essential ingredient of our curries. International chefs looking at recreating Indian dishes have in some way or the other added this to the dishes to give them an authentic flavour. India also happens to be the biggest producer of cumin. It is also known to prevent diabetes, insomnia, piles, and aid in digestion.

Cinnamon

It is widely used in desserts around the world (case in point being the apple cinnamon pie). The sweeter flavour of cinnamon enhances the taste of bakery items and hot beverages. It is also one of the healthiest spices around, as research has proven that it can lower blood sugar levels, reduce heart disease risk factors, and cut cancer risks.

Black pepper

Pepper is the undisputed champion of condiments and an important ingredient in numerous dishes. It was used in the preparation of local food in India much before the colonisers arrived. Once they found the black pepper, it became one of the most prized items in the spice trade. It was also used in ancient medicine to treat a variety of illnesses, from constipation, hernias, heart disease to diarrhoea, joint pain, and eye infections.

Coriander powder

Coriander was used as an herb by the British. But they discovered it in powder form in India and became an indispensable part of British garam masala. The West is also waking up to its numerous medicinal properties. For instance, it can be used to improve digestion, prevent menstrual irregularities, check cholesterol, and facilitate hair growth and glowing skin.

–Femina

K'taka gets just 15 paise back per rupee in taxes

CM Siddaramaiah calls for fairer distribution of resources and greater devolution to address imbalance and support state's infrastructure needs

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Did you know that for every rupee Karnataka contributes to the national exchequer, it receives only 15 paise back? Despite Karnataka's substantial contribution of about Rs 4 lakh crores to the Gross Tax Revenue of the Union every year, the state gets about Rs 45,000 crore in the form of devolution and about Rs. 15,000 crore grant-in-aid. This means that for every rupee Karnataka contributes, only 15 paise is returned to the state.

In his address to Arvind Panagariya, Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission, and its members on Thursday, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah highlighted Karnataka's crucial role in India's growth. Contributing about 8.4% to the national GDP with just 5% of the population, the State is the 2nd highest GST contributor. He emphasised that reduced central financial transfers are severely limiting the State's capacity to invest in infrastructure. Urging for a review, he argued that while economically advanced States support poorer ones, this should not undermine their own residents or economic efficiency. He called for a fairer distribution of resources generated by the States.

Siddaramaiah urged the 16th Finance Commission to cap cesses and surcharges at 5% of gross tax revenue, recommending that any excess should be included in the divisible pool. He also suggested that all non-tax revenues of the Centre be part of this pool through a necessary Constitutional amendment.

Over the years, the Union Government's increasing reliance on cesses and surcharges, which are not part of the divisible pool, has caused significant financial losses to states, including Karnataka, which lost Rs. 53,359 crore from 2017-18 to 2024-25. This reduction in central financial transfers is severely limiting states' ability to invest in critical infrastructure.

State has lost Rs 53,359 crore from non-divisible cesses, affecting infrastructure

Reduced central transfer hinders Karnataka's infrastructure. CM urges fairer resource distribution to balance support without harming economic effciency

Siddaramaiah proposed that 60% of a state's contribution to the divisible pool should be allocated back to that state. He highlighted Karnataka's substantial role in India's economy, contributing approximately 8.4% to the national GDP despite having only 5% of the population. Despite its significant contribution to the Gross Tax Revenue, Karnataka receives only a fraction of this amount in return.

He pointed out the need for greater devolution from the Centre, especially to address regional imbalances in the Kalyana Karnataka region and the challenges of urbanisation in Bengaluru. For Bengaluru, he requested a grant of Rs. 27,793 crore over the next five years, and for Kalyana Karnataka, a matching grant of Rs. 25,000 crore. Additionally, he sought Rs. 10,000 crore for disaster mitigation in the Western Ghats.

CM noted that the 15th Finance Commission reduced Karnataka's share, resulting in a loss of Rs. 68,275 crore from 2021-26. The Commission recommended state-specific grants of Rs. 11,495 crore, the Government of India did not accept this, leading to further financial deprivation. In total, Karnataka lost Rs. 79,770 crore during this period, with Rs. 35,000-40,000 crore annually transferred to other states.

Yelahanka flyover in March: It's a date

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

time frame," said BS Prahalad, chief engineer of BBMP road infrastructure division.

Endurance test

While the department claims that work on the flyover has picked up pace, the long-drawn project has made commuters edgy.

Motorists and pedestrians say the flyover has become an 'endurance test' for citizens, especially those living in the area. Work on the four-lane flyover has been going on for over 30 months.

"I commute every day in this stretch between Avalahalli and Mehkri Circle. The never-ending, slow-paced flyover work taken up by BBMP has put commuters through a lot of hardship. It has been more than two years and completion is still not in sight," said Kumar Kalyandurg, a resident of Vajram Tiara Apartments, Yelahanka.

Work on the flyover began in January 2022 and the detailed project report (DPR) by BBMP suggested that the project would be completed in 18 months. The civic body then announced that it was looking at wrapping up the project within a year (December 2022). However, it has missed multiple deadlines since then. As per the previous deadline, it was expected to be inaugurated by December 2023, which was later moved to December 2024 and now to March 2025.

"The Yelahanka New Town junction is a narrow one with heavy traffic flow throughout the day. Traffic is high as a large number of people use it to commute to Doddaballapura on one side and Hebbal on the other. While we expected some delay in the project, it has gone beyond that. Although BBMP claims that the pace of the project has picked up, we feel it is still slow. On some days, it is at a standstill. Progress was impacted after the change in the state government," said V Selvarajan, a resident of the area.

Once completed, the flyover will link four traffic junctions: Yelahanka police station, Seshadripuram First Grade College Junction, NES Circle, and Sandeep Unnikrishnan Circle. The 1.8-km stretch will give its users signal-free passage too.

Share trading scams rake in moolah online

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

opportunities to invest in trading. IPS Seema Latkar, Commissioner Police of Mysore, pointed out the cyber crime trend in a video, warning others about the new wave of scams. She revealed that 61 cases in Mysuru alone had resulted in losses totaling Rs 32 crore.

"The scammers create WhatsApp groups and share links to download applications," Latkar explained. "It's all virtual money. Today it might show 20,000, and after two days, 2 lakh. But when victims try to withdraw their supposed profits, they're asked to deposit more money first. This continues for about a month before they realise they've been duped."

This scam, like many others, thrives on the illusion of trust and legitimacy. Educated individuals, including professionals and experienced traders, have fallen victim to these schemes, blinded by the prospect of doubling or tripling their investments in a short time.

Role of technology

One of the most concerning aspects of these scams is their reliance on technology. Dr. Thennarasu points out that these scams have transitioned from one-on-one interactions to bulk operations powered by AI and automated systems. "It's no longer just a single person targeting another," he says. " These scams are run by groups of perhaps 100 people, functioning like call centres. They make calls, send SMS messages, or share links and these links are auto generated. It's all about scale now."

Moreover, the servers hosting these fraudulent operations are often based outside India, in countries like Malaysia, Nigeria, or even China. Despite their foreign origins, these servers are accessible within India, allowing scammers to operate with relative impunity. This international aspect of the crime makes it even more challenging for law enforcement to track down and shut down these operations.

Investors should avoid sites requesting sensitive info like PAN or Aadhaar, especially if they threaten policy cancellations or final repercussions

Red flags and precautions

It's crucial for potential investors to be vigilant and recognise the red flags that may indicate a fraudulent trading platform. Dr. Thennarasu advises, "Before investing, always verify the application. There are many duplicate sites out there, including fake versions of well-known platforms like the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)."

He recommends using validation sites like Google Safe Browsing and URL Void to check the authenticity of a trading platform. Additionally, investors should be wary of sites or individuals requesting sensitive information such as PAN, bank details, and Aadhaar numbers, especially if they threaten policy cancellations or other financial repercussions if this information is not provided.

In one particularly harrowing case reported on August 28, a victim lost 2 crore, even after realising the scam and reporting it to the authorities. The servers facilitating the scam were still operational, underscoring the difficulty of shutting down these sophisticated networks.

Protecting yourself

Dr. Thennarasu suggests that the safest route is to invest through bank processes, as banks have established protocols to protect investors and traders. Additionally, regularly monitoring accounts for unusual activity, and staying informed about the latest scam techniques can help individuals safeguard their investments.

In Bengaluru, the 770 cases reported in the past seven months are just the tip of the iceberg, as many more victims may be suffering in silence.

On August 29, 2024, a tweet featuring a video was posted by @PIGovindpura with the caption: "Kannada dhali math adi SCAM indha paragi," which translates to "Speak in Kannada and stay safe from scams." In the video, a police official is seen raising awareness about cybercrime, stating, "Most fraudsters who call typically speak in either English or Hindi. To avoid falling into their trap, respond in Kannada they'll likely hang up. This simple step could protect you from such scams. Recently, RR Nagar has seen a significant rise in scam cases."

Stepping out of the car? Take valuables with you

Cops on lookout for gangs that target parked cars to steal items left inside

Atiya Firdos
mybangaloremirror
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Gangs tend to break into parked cars by smashing window panes

Close on the heels of the arrest of three members of the notorious Ramji Trichi gang by the Indiranagar police, a similar gang is now causing concern for the city police. On August 22, four cars were targeted by unknown perpetrators on Indiranagar Main Road.

According to the police, two FIRs were registered on August 23 at the Indiranagar police station the next day. In the first case, the perpetrators broke the left-side window of the complainant Suhas' car and stole a laptop worth 70,000, a wallet containing cash and important IDs, house and vehicle keys, and other valuables. The same gang is believed to have then broken the window of a car parked next to Suhas', belonging to Surya, from which they stole a laptop worth 36,000 and a bag valued at 6,000.

The police are investigating whether this gang is using the same methods as the Ramji Trichi gang, known for targeting vehicles in busy areas and swiftly breaking in to steal valuables. CCTV footage shows these perpetrators roaming around the cars in the evening on the busy Indiranagar Main Road. "We are currently relying on CCTV footage and are working to track down the suspects," said a police official.

Modus operandi

The Trichi gang's approach involved identifying cars with valuables left inside, such as laptops, bags, or cash, and then breaking the car's windshield or window with special devices to access and steal the items.

"Measures have been taken to address these incidents," said a senior police official. He added that this is the fourth time in three months that the suspects have attempted to steal valuables from cars on Indiranagar 100 ft road, succeeding twice. "We've seized seven laptops from the same gang, but we believe other members are still at large. Recently, Madiwala or Koramangala Police arrested these individuals for similar thefts, and they have confessed to this crime as well. We have deployed staff and taken precautionary measures, but the CCTV coverage in parking areas is inadequate, which poses a challenge," he added. The police are now intensifying efforts to apprehend these perpetrators.

> **We have deployed staff and taken precautionary measures, but the CCTV coverage in parking areas is inadequate, which poses a challenge in such cases**
>
> –Police official

2 burglary cases cracked

A theft was reported in the Whitefield Police Station area where a suspect broke into a house in the Prestige Ozone Layout and stole two mobile phones, one watch, and cash totalling 2.34 lakh, on Saturday. The police conducted a detailed investigation and arrested the suspect on Sunday. The accused was found in possession of the stolen items and admitted to the crime. All stolen goods were recovered.

In another case, the Varthur Police apprehended a suspect involved in a burglary where 20 grams of gold, valued at 1.23 lakh, was stolen. The theft occurred in Sai Residency, while the homeowner was away on a trip, leaving the house locked.

Students to take traffic woes head on

Iffath Fathima
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Students will collaborate with traffic police to sort out traffic issues on SH35

A group of students has taken a bold step to address the growing traffic issues on State Highway 35 (SH35), commonly known as the Sidlaghatta-Anekal Highway. The students recently met with MN Anucheth, Joint Commissioner of Traffic, Bengaluru, to discuss the severe traffic bottlenecks on this stretch, which have increased travel times by 30%.

SH35, which runs from Sidlaghatta in the north to Anekal in the south, passes through key areas like Hoskote, Kadugodi, Whitefield, Varthur, Gunjur, Sarjapur, and Attibele. As these areas continue to develop and the population grows, the highway remains heavily congested. The problem is particularly challenging for students, as many schools are located along this route, causing significant delays in their daily commutes.

To tackle these issues, students from Inventure Academy will collaborate with authorities. They aim to address traffic challenges affecting all Bengalureans, including poor road conditions, lack of public transport, inadequate enforcement of traffic laws, and general lack of civic sense.

During their meeting with the Joint Commissioner, it was decided to conduct a comprehensive survey of schools along SH35 or those with significant vehicle traffic. The survey will gather data on students, faculty, buses, private cars, bikes, and their pick-up and drop-off points both on the road and within school campuses. Students plan to meet with various schools in October to collaborate on these issues. The Joint Commissioner of Traffic will host a meeting with different schools at Inventure Academy.

As part of this initiative, the Bengaluru Traffic Police will use an Application Programming Interface (API) to collect and analyse data from school buses. They will run simulations to evaluate the impact on traffic if schools adjust their closing times to either 2:20 pm or 3.30 pm or if corporate offices change their working hours to avoid overlapping with school timings.

The students also plan to conduct social media campaigns to raise awareness about traffic etiquette and good road sense. Schools will design these campaigns, focusing on one topic each month, and tag the Bengaluru Traffic Police to amplify the message.

Under the 'Our Mobility, Our Voice' initiative, student leaders will create a platform for students from all schools in the area to express their views on traffic through persuasive essays to political leaders, social media campaigns, and visual and performing arts. Police will also step up enforcement of traffic rules, such as no parking on pavements and no driving on the wrong side of the road.

Potholes and infra issues in students' radar too

Finally, students will report potholes and other infrastructure issues impacting traffic via platforms like "Fix My Street" and "I Changed My City," and will also report traffic violations to the Bengaluru Traffic Police.

Nooraine Fazal, Co-Founder & Managing Trustee, of Inventure Academy, said, "It's very easy for all of us to complain about the lack of investment in public infrastructure, the unplanned development that Bangalore has been experiencing, poor traffic sense and civic apathy. We would rather teach our children to work collaboratively with various stakeholders on sustainable solutions, in line with our mission to create 100k change makers."

CRIME FILES

Youth murdered over parking row

An 18-year-old youth was allegedly murdered by a group of local boys in Kondikoppa, Madanayakanahalli, on Thursday night over a parking row.

The deceased is identified as Rahman, who was employed at a welding shop. According to the police, Rahman was stopped by a group of boys while he was trying to park his bike. One of the boys had positioned their bike in front of Rahman's, preventing him from parking. The confrontation quickly escalated into a physical altercation, during which the boys, who were known to Rahman, fatally attacked him.

The incident occurred around 9:45 pm, and Rahman was immediately rushed to a hospital in Kodigoppa, but he succumbed to his injuries. A case is registered in Madanayakanahalli police station and the investigation is underway.

Notorious bike thief nabbed

An operation was conducted on Muthsandra Road and the Varthur police arrested a notorious two-wheeler thief this Sunday. The arrest has led to the recovery of 12 stolen vehicles valued at 9 lakh.

The investigation began after a complaint filed by a resident of Rama Layout under the Varthur Police Station on July 23, reporting the theft of a two-wheeler parked in front of their house. The police tracked down the accused, who later confessed to the crime. Interrogation revealed the accused had stolen two-wheelers across multiple locations in the city, Bangalore Rural, and Kollegala. The police recovered 11 more two-wheelers from a Nilgiri grove in Soorhunise. The seized vehicles were linked to theft cases registered in Baiyappanahalli, HSR Layout, Tilak Nagar, Madiwala, Parappana Agrahara, and Sarjapur police stations.

Police probe bomb mail hoax

A private school in Bengaluru was the target of a bomb hoax, sparking panic and a swift response from law enforcement. The incident occurred at Indian Public School, located within the jurisdiction of the Govindpur Police Station, when a threatening email was received early on Thursday morning.

The email, sent around 6:57 am from the ID coldghost456@gmail.com, claimed that five pipeline bombs had been planted on the school premises. The sender, using the alias "Father Kodachi", warned that the bombs would detonate at 1:30 pm. The email, which also mentioned another ID, askbirnorth@tipsglobal.net, caused immediate concern among the school administration. The Govindpur Police, along with the bomb squad, rushed to the school and conducted a thorough search.

Lorry collision kills cyclist

An accident at Chalukya Circle claimed the life of a cyclist when a lorry collided with him, leading to his death on the spot. The incident occurred late in the evening when the cyclist, reportedly a native of Rajasthan, was on his way home after finishing work.

The collision left the cyclist fatally injured, with no chance of survival. The High Ground Traffic Police were quick to respond, arriving at the scene to conduct an inspection. They have since taken both the lorry and its driver into custody for further investigation. The identity of the deceased is yet to be officially confirmed, and efforts are underway to notify his family.

Man stabs dance instructor wife to death

A 28-year-old dance instructor, Navyashri, was stabbed to death by her husband, Kiran, 31, in Kengeri Satellite Town on Thursday. Kiran, a cab driver, allegedly killed his wife while she was asleep, suspecting her of an illicit affair. The couple had been married for three years and lived in a rented house in SMV Layout.

According to police, Navyashri had confided in her friend Ishwarya the previous day about the harassment she was facing from Kiran and her fears for her safety. After a night out with Ishwarya and another friend, Anil, Navyashri returned home. The next morning, Ishwarya woke up to find Navyashri dead with stab wounds. She alerted the neighbours, and the police launched an investigation.

Ishwarya filed a complaint, stating that Kiran had used duplicate keys to enter the house and murder his wife. Following the complaint, the police registered a case of murder and arrested Kiran. During questioning, Kiran confessed to the crime, claiming that Navyashri had been involved in an illicit affair, which had led to frequent arguments between them. On Wednesday night, after another heated argument while Ishwarya was asleep, Kiran stabbed his wife to death and then fled the scene. —BMB

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I Nelson Ashe C S/O, Cecil Patrick Ashe R/o Bbmp #4, House No 9, 1st Floor Ejipura Main Road Vivek Nagar Post Bangalore 560047 have changed my name to Nelson Patrick Ashe .

I, Soumya Shivaprakash Harti R/at Ward No.11, Indi Road, Near Neelakanteshwara Temple, Bijapur,v Vijayapura-586101, Karnataka,Camp at Bengaluru have changed my name from Soumya Shivaprakash Harti to Soumya Sanjaya Masuti vide affidavit dated 28/08/2024 before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, Bengaluru.

I, Kiran Jagadish Kumar R/o #45, 4th T Block East pattabhirama Nagar jayanagar B'luru-560041 have changed my to Kiran J Purohit for all purposes.

I, MUKESH HIRANNAIAH PREMALATHA R/o 407, 4th Floor, B Block, Sri Krishna Excel Stone, Varthur Post, Bangalore 560087 have changed my minor Daughter from SIHI SANMUK to SIHI SANMUKI for all purposes

I Sultana Banu Hussain Sait W/O, Mohammed Hussain Sait R/o S01 R K Heritage B Block, 3rd Floor Shampur Main Road Nagavara Bengaluru - 560045 have changed my name to Sultana Banu.

I, Lakshmi Kanta Raju CV R/o #063, B3 Block, DsMax Stonehill Apartment, Anjanapura PO, Tulsi pura main Road, JP Nagar 9th phase, Bangalore, Karnataka-560062, have changed my name to Lakshmi Kanth Raju CV

I, Jagadish Kumar R/o #45,4th T Block East pattabhirama Nagar jayanagar B'luru-560041 have changed my minor son's name from Janak Jagadish Kumar to Janak J Purohit for all purposes.

I, Sunitha Venkatesh w/o Chandrashekhar R/o #110 Rangashree Pearl Apt Kanakapura Main Rd Raghuvanahalli B'luru-560062 have changed my name to Sunitha for all purposes.

I, Mujeeb Ur Rahman R/o #49, 2nd Cross , Rama Tent Road Khushal Nagar Bangalore 45 have changed my minor son's name from Mohammed Urooj Salam to Mohammed Urooj Salaam for all purposes.

I Amit Kothari S/O, Sheetal Kumar Kothari R/o 11-1-58, Mg Road, Loharwadi, Raichur, Karnataka - 584101 have changed my name to Amit Kumar Kothari.

CHANGE OF NAME
I **RIZWANA BANO MALIK**, W/O SYED ABDUL MALIK, Aged 65 years, Resident at #280, karanji extension, new court Road, Malur-563 130, Kolar District, Have changed my name to rizwana banu, I will be called as **Rizwana Banu** for all purposes & Same as Sworn before M.Jagannath, Advocate & Notary, Malur vide affidavit dated 29/08/2024.

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HEALTH TIP: If the red spots on your legs itch a lot, they could be eczema, and you should see a dermatologist at the earliest

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PLASTIC ON MY MIND

Microplastics are in our brains. How worried should I be?

Plastic is in our clothes, cars, mobile phones, water bottles and food containers. But recent research adds to growing concerns about the impact of tiny plastic fragments on our health.

A study from the United States has, for the first time, found microplastics in human brains. The study, which has yet to be independently verified by other scientists, has been described in the media as scary, shocking and alarming.

But what exactly are microplastics? What do they mean for our health? Should we be concerned?

What are microplastics? Can you see them?

We often consider plastic items to be indestructible. But plastic breaks down into smaller particles. Definitions vary but generally microplastics are smaller than five millimetres.

This makes some too small to be seen with the naked eye. So, many of the images the media uses to illustrate articles about microplastics are misleading, as some show much larger, clearly visible pieces.

Microplastics have been reported in many sources of drinking water and everyday food items. This means we are constantly exposed to them in our diet.

Such widespread, chronic (long-term) exposure makes this a serious concern for human health. While research investigating the potential risk microplastics pose to our health is limited, it is growing.

How about this latest study?

The study looked at concentrations of microplastics in 51 samples from men and women set aside from routine autopsies in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Samples were from the liver, kidney and brain.

These tiny particles are difficult to study due to their size, even with a high-powered microscope. So rather than trying to see them, researchers are beginning to use complex instruments that identify the chemical composition of microplastics in a sample. This is the technique used in this study.

The researchers were surprised to find up to 30 times more microplastics in brain samples than in the liver and kidney.

They hypothesised this could be due to high blood flow to the brain (carrying plastic particles with it). Alternatively, the liver and kidneys might be better suited to dealing with external toxins and particles. We also know the brain does not undergo the same amount of cellular renewal as other organs in the body, which could make the plastics linger here.

The researchers also found the amount of plastics in brain samples increased by about 50 per cent between 2016 and 2024. This may reflect the rise in environmental plastic pollution and increased human exposure.

The microplastics found in this study were mostly composed of polyethylene. This is the most commonly produced plastic in the world and is used for many everyday products, such as bottle caps and plastic bags.

This is the first time microplastics have been found in human brains, which is important. However, this study is a "pre-print", so other independent microplastics researchers haven't yet reviewed or validated the study.

How do microplastics end up in the brain?

Microplastics typically enter the body through contaminated food and water. This can disrupt the gut microbiome (the community of microbes in your gut) and cause inflammation. This leads to effects in the whole body via the immune system and the complex, two-way communication system between the gut and the brain. This so-called gut-brain axis is implicated in many aspects of health and disease.

We can also breathe in airborne microplastics. Once these particles are in the gut or lungs, they can move into the bloodstream and then travel around the body into various organs.

Studies have found microplastics in human faeces, joints, livers, reproductive organs, blood, vessels and hearts.

Microplastics also migrate to the brains of wild fish. In mouse studies, ingested microplastics are absorbed from the gut into the blood and can enter the brain, becoming lodged in other organs along the way.

To get into brain tissue, microplastics must cross the blood-brain-barrier, an intricate layer of cells that is supposed to keep things in the blood from entering the brain.

Although concerning, this is not surprising, as microplastics must cross similar cell barriers to enter the urine, testes and placenta, where they have already been found in humans.

Is this a health concern?

We don't yet know the effects of microplastics in the human brain. Some laboratory experiments suggest microplastics increase brain inflammation and cell damage, alter gene expression and change brain structure.

Aside from the effects of the microplastic particles themselves, microplastics might also pose risks if they carry environmental toxins or bacteria into and around the body.

Various plastic chemicals could also leach out of the microplastics into the body. These include the famous hormone-disrupting chemicals known as BPAs.

But microplastics and their effects are difficult to study. In addition to their small size, there are so many different types of plastics in the environment. More than 13,000 different chemicals have been identified in plastic products, with more being developed every year.

Microplastics are also weathered by the environment and digestive processes, and this is hard to reproduce in the lab.

A goal of our research is to understand how these factors change the way microplastics behave in the body. We plan to investigate if improving the integrity of the gut barrier through diet or probiotics can prevent the uptake of microplastics from the gut into the bloodstream. This may effectively stop the particles from circulating around the body and lodging into organs.

How do I minimise my exposure?

Microplastics are widespread in the environment, and it's difficult to avoid exposure. We are just beginning to understand how microplastics can affect our health.

Until we have more scientific evidence, the best thing we can do is reduce our exposure to plastics where we can and produce less plastic waste, so less ends up in the environment.

An easy place to start is to avoid foods and drinks packaged in single-use plastic or reheated in plastic containers. We can also minimise exposure to synthetic fibres in our home and clothing.

(By Sarah Hellewell, Curtin University, Anastazja Gorecki & Charlotte Sofield, University of Notre Dame Australia, The Conversation)

All you need to know about...

Catching up on sleep

Good for heart
Unable to sleep better on weekdays due to busy schedules? Sleeping in on weekends may not only compensate for lost sleep but may reduce your heart disease risk by one-fifth too, according to a study.

Compensatory sleep
"Sufficient compensatory sleep is linked to a lower risk of heart disease. The association becomes even more pronounced among individuals who regularly experience inadequate sleep on weekdays," said study author Yanjun Song of the State Key Laboratory of Infectious Disease, Fuwai Hospital, Beijing, which is also the National Centre for Cardiovascular Disease.
It is generally known that those who experience sleep deprivation, "sleep in" on their days off, just to compensate for that one day they missed.

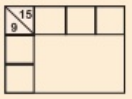
Study
Accelerometers, a device used to measure sleep patterns, were employed by the authors to collect sleep data from 90,903 participants in the UK Biobank project in order to assess the association between compensated weekend sleep and heart disease.
Individuals who self-reported getting less than 7 hours of sleep per night were considered to be suffering from sleep deprivation.
19,816 (21.8 per cent) of the individuals in total were classified as sleep-deprived.
It was possible to diagnose a number of cardiac conditions, such as ischemic heart disease (IHD), heart failure (HF), atrial fibrillation (AF), and stroke, using hospitalisation records and information from the cause of death registry.
"Our results show that for the significant proportion of the population in modern society that suffers from sleep deprivation, those who have the most 'catch-up' sleep at weekends have significantly lower rates of heart disease than those with the least," said Zechen Liu, of the same laboratory. —IANS

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

James can do a job in 8 hours and Peter can do the same job in 5 hours. If they finished 13/25 of the job by working together, how long did they work together?

Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



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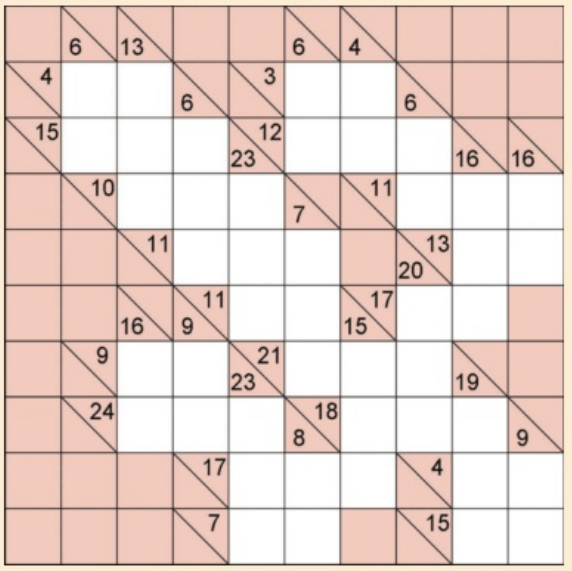

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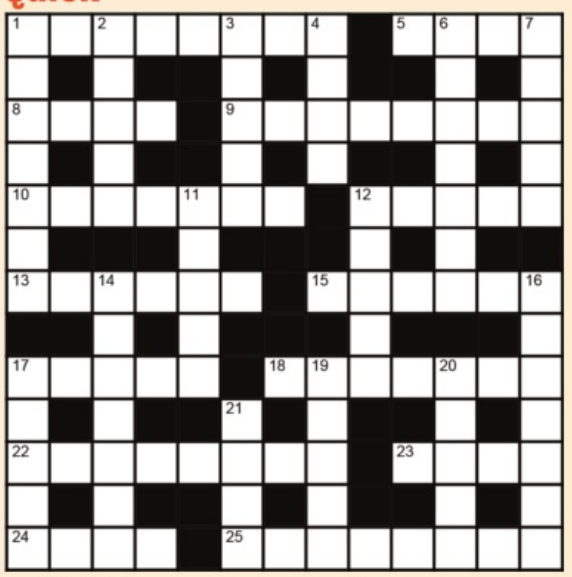


ACROSS

1 A man of __ __ : don't expect him to talk a lot? (3,5)
5 Not of the clergy (4)
8 Popular pub in Indira Nagar (4)
9 Final (8)
10 Recovered from? (3,4)
12 Gambling tokens (5)
13 Fit to eat (6)
15 The most uncommon (6)
17 Not very warm (5)
18 Posers or puzzles of sorts (7)
22 Vacillate (8)
23 42 in Rome (4)
24 The orient (4)
25 Escapes (4,4)

DOWN

1 Drain of energy (7)
2 Body part below the ribs (5)
3 Choice of roads (5)
4 Becomes firm (4)
6 Extreme greed (7)
7 Masticates (5)
11 Legally acceptable (5)
12 Type of beet (5)
14 Enforces compliance with (7)
16 Give evidence (7)
17 American lake (5)
19 Non reactive (5)
20 Legal drama on TV (2,3)
21 Working-party (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: B EQUALS P

JMNH BRMBXR RIKMD HLR QIYRCQMCQHD MY HLRQC TRNH YCQRIAN.

Linemaro

You could spam me all day and I still wouldn't unsubscribe

Mindchow

We write to taste life twice, in the moment and in retrospect

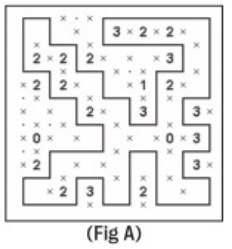
Joke of the day

Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end

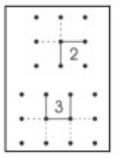
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

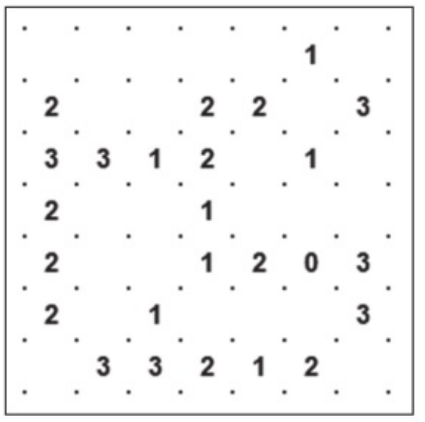


(Fig B) Not Allowed

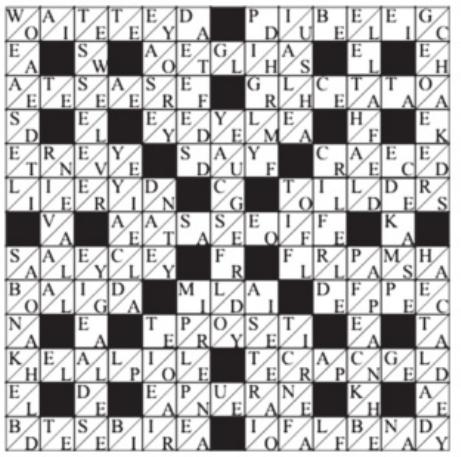
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



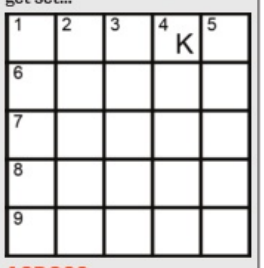
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Corks; 6 Le thy; 7 Slay H; 8 A I ere; 9 RR Wye

DOWN

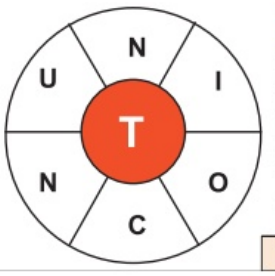
1 Wears; 2 Throe; 3 Archy; 4 Kiley; 5 Lyres

Mensapuzzle

On the right is an alphametic, a tip of the helmet to a football great, in which each letter stands for a positive number. If A = 2, E = 6, K = 1 and F =4, fill in the remaining numbers? (Remember, zero cannot start a word)

```
  FAVRE
+  PACK
------
 CHAMP
```

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 06 Outstanding

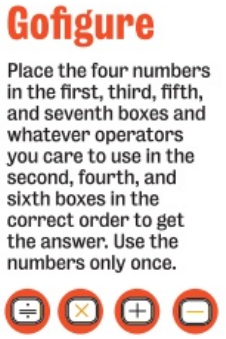
SudokuChallenge

2		9			4			
	4		5				8	
					8	6	7	
		1			2		4	8
		4				2		
8	2		9			1		
	1	5	8					
	7				6		5	
			1			8		9

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

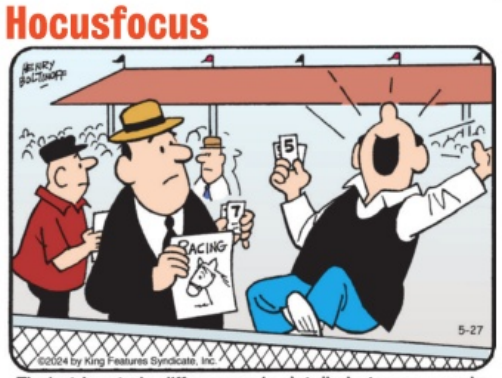


Easy = 1
6 7 8 8

Medium = 13
2 4 5 6

Hard = 40
2 9 9 2

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

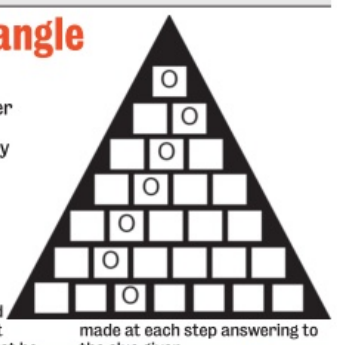
Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Mouth is open. 3. Ticket is missing from hand. 4. Finger is moved. 5. Pennant is moved. 6. Hat is different.

Riddler

Which is the odd one out: Harem, Cloche, Capri, Bootleg?

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number 8
2 Company, abbr.
3 Bashful's coworker
4 Cipher
5 Gently and sweetly
6 Treat tenderly
7 Turbid

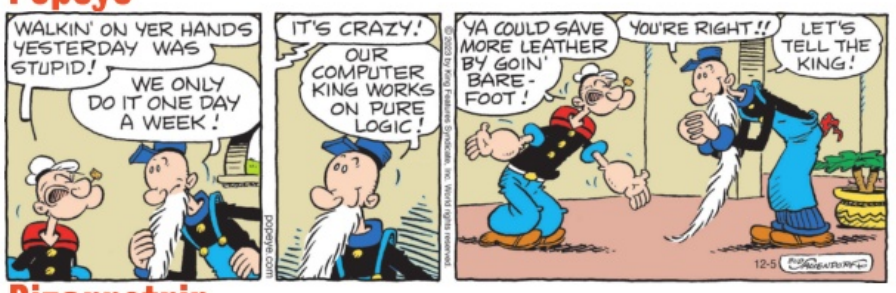


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


WALKIN' ON YER HANDS YESTERDAY WAS STUPID!
WE ONLY DO IT ONE DAY A WEEK!
IT'S CRAZY!
OUR COMPUTER KING WORKS ON PURE LOGIC!
YA COULD SAVE MORE LEATHER BY GOIN' BARE-FOOT!
YOU'RE RIGHT!!
LET'S TELL THE KING!
12-5

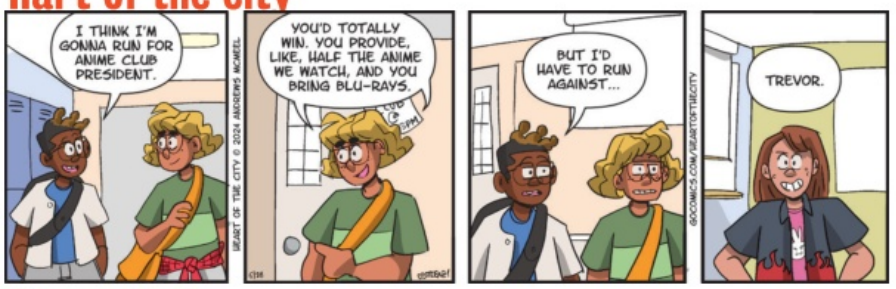
Bizarrotrip

©2024 BIZARRO STUDIOS
We only got funding for three monkeys with typewriters, but they wrote the script for Plan 9 from Outer Space.
Wayno & Piraro 5-27-24
BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

WELCOME TO RESTAURANT HORROR THEATER
AND NOW TONIGHT'S FEATURE, "ATTACK OF THE 50-FOOT ENTREE"
THAT'S A MIGHTY TALL ORDER
©2024 creators.com 5/27
www.creators.com

Hart of the city


I THINK I'M GONNA RUN FOR ANIME CLUB PRESIDENT.
YOU'D TOTALLY WIN. YOU PROVIDE, LIKE, HALF THE ANIME WE WATCH, AND YOU BRING BLU-RAYS.
BUT I'D HAVE TO RUN AGAINST...
TREVOR.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@OCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

I WAS WONDERING IF YOU GUYS WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SPONSORING OUR SUMMER-SILVER-SENIOR-SLOW-PITCH-SOFTBALL-SOCIETY TEAM.
WE'D LOVE TO!
HANG ON, MINDY... MAYBE WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT THIS FIRST.
I LIKE HER ANSWER BETTER!
S-27 BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may enjoy work; you may get rewards after your hard work. Your social respect may be increased now. Overworking may make you tired, and due to your workload, you may not be able to reach some family events on time. Your mother's health may be good now.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may be satisfied with your performance at work. You may also plan for a short work-related trip. You may also visit some religious places to maintain your inner peace. Your guides may show you the right path, which may give you clarity regarding your goals.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may feel dull; it is advised to keep your mind cool. It's a golden rule for you to think twice before you act. You may travel to recover your money; otherwise, you may lose it. You are also advised to avoid going on an adventure tour. Students are advised to go for in-depth study to get success.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel good; domestic harmony may make you happy. You may meet some influential person to get some benefits in the workplace. You may likely perform well in your job; you may expect some rewards in terms of promotions. Disputes in inherited property are likely to settle down.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may be busy with your kids; you may plan to invest in their future. You are likely to start innovation in partnership. You may get some investments in your business, which will increase your business in the near future. You may also plan for higher studies to grow your career path.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may find yourself in a self-analysis state, which will bring some confidence in you. Your focus towards your goals is now clear; you may achieve them. Your creativity might improve, and you will take an interest in artefacts, movies, glamour, and real-life objects. At the end of the day, you may be satisfied with your life. Your opponents may be under control now.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may help needy people around you. It will increase your reputation among your surroundings. New ideas may come into your mind, and you might implement the innovation into the work, which may increase your business. Lovebirds may plan an outing or some adventure tour.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may be busy with domestic issues. You may spend money on buying some artefacts or household stuff. You are advised to control spending on worthless stuff; otherwise, it may attract negative energy in the house. You are also advised to control your harsh speech with the people around you.

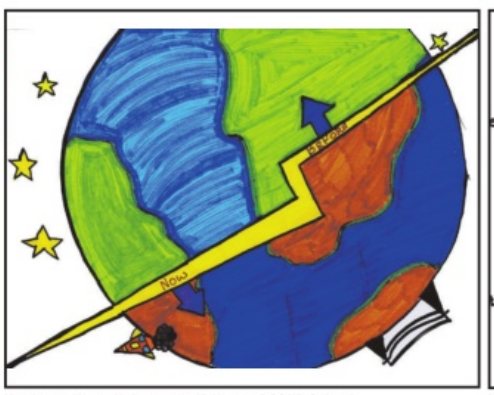
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
You are inclined towards spiritualism today. Your way of thinking may be positive. You may plan to visit a religious place. You may also take an interest in occult science. You are likely to observe flawlessness in your nature. It is advised to keep your views with you only; try to discuss with those who may understand you.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may feel nervous, and you may lack patience. You may be attracted to the occult. It is advised to follow your intuition before going ahead. You may also get in-depth knowledge on a subject, or you may have a good focus on your research.

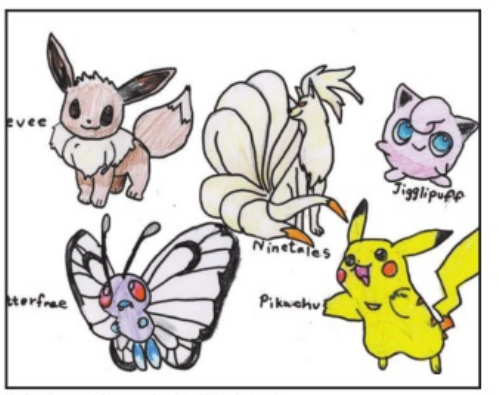
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, your moon is placed in a good position; you may expect some positive momentum in professional and domestic life. There are likely to be gains in terms of your investments. You may get reciprocation of your help from your friends and relatives. Your hard work may pay you in terms of success.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may do better. Kids' health is better now; you may plan to make some investments for their future. You are likely to be more loyal towards your job. Job seekers may find a good job with the help of references. You may be able to find your hidden enemies, and with the help of blessings, you may counter them.

KIDZONE



Vaishnavi Kiran Kalumangi, 12 Years, BGSNP School



Hafsa Banu, 8 Years, Sophia High School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
(Portion work done / portion work done per hour)
= ((13/25) / (1/8) + (1/5))
= ((13/25) / (13/40))
= (40 / 25)
= 1.6 hours
= 1 hour 36 minutes

QUOTE UNCODE
Most people enjoy the interiority of their best friends.

FAST FIVE

R	O	C	K	S
E	T	H	Y	L
S	H	A	L	Y
A	E	R	I	E
W	R	Y	E	R

BULL'S EYE
count, into, tonic, UNCTION, unit, unto

STRIKE OUT

D	E	S	I	R	E		O	F	F	E	N	D		
E		D	E	N	U	R	E		H	E				
K	E	L	P	I	E		T	R	A	C	E	D		
S	L	E	D	E	M	A		H	A	K				
E	N	V	Y		S	A	Y		R	A	C	E		
L	I	E	I	N		G	O	I	L	E	R			
A		E	A	S	E	O	F		F	L	A	S	H	
S	L	Y		Y	R		F	L	A	S	H			
O	L	I	D		I	L	A		E	P	E	E		
T	E	P	I	D		R	I	D	D	L	E	S		
E		M		I								E		
E	D	I	B	L	E		R	A	R	E	S	T		
U			A		H		C	H	I	P	S			
G	O	T	O	V	E	R		C	H	I	P	S		
I		S		T		S		R		W				
T	O	I	T		U	L	T	I	M	A	T	E		
A		A		O		E		V		H				
F	E	W	W	O	R	D	S		L	A	I	C		

QUICK

E	A	S	T		G	E	T	S	A	W	A	Y		
O		E		N		R		A				F		
H	E	S	I	T	A	T	E		X	L	I	I		
A		O		N				A		T				
T	E	P	I	D		R	I	D	D	L	E	S		
E				I								E		
E	D	I	B	L	E		R	A	R	E	S	T		
U			A		H		C	H	I	P	S			
G	O	T	O	V	E	R		C	H	I	P	S		
I		S		T		S		R		W				
T	O	I	T		U	L	T	I	M	A	T	E		
A		A		O		E		V		H				
F	E	W	W	O	R	D	S		L	A	I	C		

MENSA PUZZLE
42986
+ 7251

50237

RIDDLER
Cloche, a hat, others are styles of trouser.

SUDOKU

2	8	9	6	7	4	5	1	3
7	4	6	5	1	3	9	8	2
1	5	3	2	9	8	6	7	4
5	9	1	3	6	2	7	4	8
3	6	4	7	8	1	2	9	5
8	2	7	9	4	5	1	3	6
6	1	5	8	3	9	4	2	7
9	7	8	4	2	6	3	5	1
4	3	2	1	5	7	8	6	9

ALPHA TRIANGLE
0, Co, Doc, Code, Dolce, Cuddle, Clouded.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 7 − 8 − 6 = 1
Medium
4 + 6 + 5 − 2 = 13
Hard
9 + 2 + 9 x 2 = 40

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 17, Issue No 174 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru - 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Gwyneth returns — Oscar-winning actress Gwyneth Paltrow is set to return to the big screen with her role in the upcoming 'Marty Supreme' that will feature Paltrow alongside Timothee Chalamet and is being directed by Josh Safdie

TALENTED COUPLE GOALS

Rajkummar would love to work with wife again

Acclaimed actor Rajkummar is gung ho about sharing screen space with his wife and actress Patralekhaa and said that he is hopeful that it will happen soon.

Rajkummar and Patralekhaa, who have been together since 2010 and got married in 2021, were seen in the 2014 film "CityLights", a remake of the BAFTA nominated British film "Metro Manila". It told the story of a farmer from Rajasthan coming to Mumbai in search of livelihood.

Asked when they share screen space again, Rajkummar told IANS: " Hopefully, it will happen soon. I would love to work with her. I think she's a great talent."

The actor heaped praise on his wife and said that she is very "passionate" when it comes to her work. "She's a very passionate actor. She loves what she does. Now, she has a series (IC 814: The Kandahar Hijack) coming. So, she's busy with promotions for that. But hopefully, very soon. I would love to work with her," he said.

Rajkummar's latest release is "Stree 2," directed by Amar Kaushik, which is now ranked 6th on the list of the highest-grossing Hindi films of all time. The film also stars Shraddha Kapoor, Pankaj Tripathi, Abhishek Bannerjee and Aparshakti Khurrana.

He feels good that his film is doing so well at the box-office. "But that's not the only thing that matters to me. First of all, I think what matters to me is to be a part of a good film. And not necessarily that every good film does well at the box office. That also I've seen."

The actor said that for him, it's very important to be part of good stories and to work with good makers.

"You know, to grow as an artist. And then, of course, on top of that, when it does well at the box office, that's, of course, a great feeling. There's a lot of gratitude for that." —**IANS**

Time with daughter

Priyanka Chopra wrapped up work on her highly anticipated action film 'The Bluff' in Australia just a few weeks ago. The actress, who is also producing the film, opened up about the demanding routine she maintained while filming her latest project.

Speaking to Vogue India, PeeCee shed light on her 12-hour work schedule that saw her begin her day at 4:30 am and squeeze in time to spend with her daughter, Malti Marie, and catch up with her mother Madhu Chopra if not attend to other work.

"I worked 12 hours, came home, ate dinner, played with my daughter, caught up with my mom or other work, went to sleep, then woke up the next day and did it all over again," she said in the interview.

Those keeping up with Chopra on social media would have seen her posting photos from her little adventures with her mom and daughter in and around Australia.

However, the actress admitted that the experience was challenging and isolating, given the distance from her usual support network.

"Nick [Jonas] was busy with his touring, yet he found the time to fly in for that extra TLC and to spend time with us," she shared. Despite his efforts, these moments were rare. "My family, friends, and team were sleeping when I was awake, and while I was asleep, they were at full steam. It's the nature of the beast, I guess." —**ETimes**

Cheat day treat

Actress Mrunal Thakur on Thursday shared a glimpse of her cheat day, in which she can be seen enjoying a delicious scoop of an ice-cream.

Taking to Instagram, Mrunal, who has 13.4 million followers on the photo sharing application, dropped photos from an ice-cream parlour.

She is wearing a denim-on-denim outfit and has rounded off the look with a sling bag. Mrunal is holding an ice-cream cone and is flaunting her smile.

The post is captioned as: "Oops!! I did it again #cheatday #icecream". A fan commented: "The happiness on your face". Another user said: "Ye ice cream mujhe de de thakur".

Meanwhile, on the work front, Mrunal began her acting career in 2012 with the television show 'Mujhse Kuchh Kehti...Yeh Khamoshiyaan'. She has featured in shows like 'Arjun', 'Kumkum Bhagya'. She has also participated in 'Nach Baliye 7'.

Mrunal was also a part of the web series 'Made in Heaven 2'. She featured in the episode titled 'Beauty and the Beast' as Adhira Arya. The drama streaming chronicles the lives of Tara and Karan, two wedding planners in Delhi.

The series stars Sobhita Dhulipala, Arjun Mathur, Jim Sarbh, Shashank Arora, Kalki Koechlin, Shivani Raghuvanshi and Mona Singh in the lead roles.

She has starred in movies like 'Love Sonia', 'Super 30', 'Batla House'. —**IANS**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

About love and life

Pavithran, who has directed around 10 Tamil movies, debuts in Sandalwood with Karki. Its teaser and trailer were unveiled at MMB Legacy recently. Karki is bankrolled by Prakash Palani, a movie distributor, under the Third Eye Media banner.

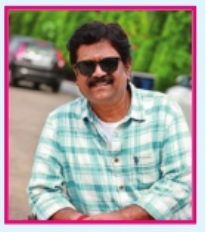
On the occasion, Kaviraj, a lyricist, said, "Pavithran was keen to know the meaning of each word of the lyrics. I am sure audiences will feel happy watching the movie at theaters."

Palani said he agreed to invest money on the movie because of its script. "A well-known Kannada movie director was supposed to direct Karki but could not do so. Later, we approached Pavithran to direct it. It has come out well. If all goes well, Karki will arrive in theaters by the end of September," the producer said.

Jayaprakash Reddy, who has acted in movies Whatsapp Love and Raja Rani, plays the lead in Karki while Meenakshi is paired opposite him. "I play a village youth whose ambition is to become a law graduate. The movie highlights caste and creed. It revolves around friendship, love and humanity," said Reddy.

On the moon!

Director Gururaj Kulkarni is excited about the success of his maiden movie The Judgment in which Crazy Star Ravichandran played the lead. The success has motivated Kulkarni to prepare to direct one more movie.



Kulkarni has conducted an online poll among 300 movie buffs to know about their preference of movie genres. "More than 67% prefer thriller movies while 16% want to watch movies made for family audiences," Kulkarani said.

Kulkarni formed two teams to conduct audiences' surveys in Bengaluru and Mysuru. "I have kept a few scripts with me. I formed a four-member writers' team, including me. One of them is from Mumbai while the other writer is from Chennai," he said.

Kulkarni is expected to make the announcement on his plan to direct a movie next month. "The Judgment has brought five to six percent profit. We are in talks with a few TV channels on the satellite rights of the movie. A decision will be taken on releasing it on the OTT platform," he said.